

Film Annotation - "Pandora's Promise"

Sustainability Problems

1. Title, director and release year?
 - Robert Stone directed "Pandora's Promise" and it was released in 2013.
2. What is the central argument or narrative of the film?
 - The film focuses on the benefits of nuclear power and how the negative stigma around it is unfair.
3. How is the argument or narrative made or sustained? How much scientific information is provided, for example? Does the film have emotional appeal?
 - The film uses scientific facts and statistics to convey its message. It attempts to debunk the negative stigmas associated with the nuclear industry in order to help promote its use in the future.
4. What sustainability problem does the film draw out? Political? Legal? Economical? Technical? Media and Informational? Organizational? Educational? Behavioral? Cultural? Ecological?
 - The film highlights mostly media and informational, cultural and ecological topics to further its points. It talks about how nuclear power can significantly decrease the production of greenhouse gasses and combat global climate change.
5. What parts of the film did you find most persuasive and compelling? Why?
 - I found how they describe the world's increasing demand for power and explained there is no way to meet these demands in a sustainable way with fossil fuels or renewables alone to be most compelling. They go on to say how nuclear energy can fill this void.
6. What parts of the film were you not compelled or convinced by? Why?
 - The feasibility of more nuclear plants is questionable. They are extremely energy intensive to build and require massive amounts of concrete, which is costly to use.
7. What audiences does this film best address? Why?
 - I think this film is more geared towards investors and leaders in industry to push them to be more apt to build nuclear plants. Also to average people because if a nuclear plant is proposed near a city the people there would likely oppose it due to the negative stigmas associated with the plants.
8. What could have been added to this film to enhance its environmental educational value?
 - More interviews with people in the nuclear industry would have been helpful, providing more examples of the benefits and drawbacks of nuclear plants.
9. What kinds of action and points of intervention are suggested by this film? If the film itself does not suggest corrective action, describe actions that you can imagine being effective.

- The film indicates that nuclear plants must begin to start replacing the energy produced by fossil fuels. It shows scenes of activists rallying to try and get nuclear plants to be built.

10. What additional information has the film compelled you to seek out? (Provide at least two supporting references.)

- I found that currently there are around 104 nuclear plants operating in the United States. In order to replace the United States energy produced by fossil fuels there would need to be an additional 750 nuclear plants built. I also found that this is equivalent to increasing the production of energy by renewable sources 2000 times.

References

U.S. Energy Information Administration - EIA - Independent Statistics and Analysis. (n.d.). *Annual Energy Outlook 2014*. Retrieved May 7, 2014, from <http://www.eia.gov/forecasts/aeo/>